1373. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether Government propose to lay a White Paper on anti-dumping duties on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHINDAMBARAM): Anti-dumping investigations in India are governed by the provisions of Section 9, 9A & 9B of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and the Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-Dumping Duty on Dumped Articles for Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995.

An officer of the Ministry of Commerce acts as the Designated Authority and deals with the cases in quasi-judicial capacity as per the rules prescribed in this regard. There is, however, no proposal to lay a White Paper on anti-dumping duties on the Table of the House.

Availability of coal due to transfer of site

1374. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is possible to foresee the availability of coal before agreeing to linkages in order to avoid subsequent transfer to other fields; and

(b) what is the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The long-term coal linkages for thermal power stations are decided by the Standing Linkage Committee (Long-term) functioning in the Ministry of Coal, comprising of representatives of Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Railways, Planning Commission, Central Electricity Authority, CIL, SCCL and CMPDI etc. All efforts are made to establish/rationalise long-term coal linkages from feasible/logical sources considering factors like time frame of supply, coal development programmes, transportation logistics etc.

By products of Sugar Industry

1375. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to encourage research on various uses of the by products of sugar industry;

(b) if so, whether any research has been carried out in this regard;

(c) if os, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(d) the other products for which sugarcane could be used as per research?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The Central Government does not have any specific scheme for encouraging research on varous uses of the by products. It is for the individual sugar factory/Institution to undertaken such projects on their viability basis.

(b) to (d) The National sugar Institute, Kanpur has carried out the following research work in respect of the by products of the sugar industry:—

(i) Manufacturing and refining of sugarcane wax from sulphitation press mud;

(ii) Compressed bakers yeast from molasses;

(iii) Animal feed from bagasse;

(iv) Oxalic Acid from Molasses.

In addition to the above, the following are also being produced:

(i) Paper and Particle board from bagasse;

(ii) Co-generation of surplus power.

The other by products for which sugarcane could be used as per the

regard has been signed between India and Nepal;

(d) if so, the details of such joint ventures where Indian investment is likely to be made; and

(e) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. His Majesty's Government of Nepal have in recent months renewed their invitation to Indian entrepreneurs to make investments in Nepal.

(b) The invitation is not limited in terms of sectors, but MHGN have specifically identified certain priority sectors for this purpose, namely agro-based industry, tourism, hydro-power and other manufacturing industries (textile mills, readymade garments, leather products, writing and printing papers, newsprint, pharmaceuticals, sugar), as well as service sectors.

(c) No, Sir. Such investment does not require an inter-governmental agreement.

(d) It is not possible to specify joint ventures which Indian entrepreneurs might be interested to explore in Nepal.

(e) The Government's policy is to encourage and facilitate increased economic cooperation with Nepal, including investment in that country. research is the production of alcohol from sugarcane juice.

Zero trade deficit

1376. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Economic Times dated February 26, 1995 captioned 'India may have zero trade deficit in 1997';

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) by when the country's trade deficit at zero point is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. No such news-item in the Economic Times dated February 26, 1995 has come to the notice of the Government. However, a similar news item which appeared in the Economic Times dated February 26, 1994 has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) and (c) Exports and imports depend on divergent sets of factors and an exact balance between the two can only be a coincidence. The Government is striving for a sustainable balance of trade. Given the comfortable foreign exchange reserves position, India's current trade deficit is within manageable limits.

Setting up of Industries in Nepal by Indian entrepreneurs

1377. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Nepal has made an offer to the Indian extrepreneurs to set up industries in Nepal;

(b) if so, the sectors in which offer has been made;

(c) whether any agreement in this

Damage to Foodgrains in FCI Godowns

1378. DR. RANBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether foodgrains worth Rs. 100 crore have been rendered useless for human consumption over the last two years and the same cannot even be used for fodder purposes as has been brought